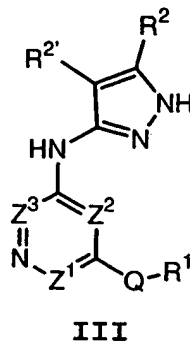


Abstract

This invention describes novel pyrazole compounds of formula **III**:



wherein Z^1 , Z^2 , and Z^3 are as described in the specification; Q is -S-, -O-, -N(R⁴)-, or -CH(R⁶)-; R¹ is T-Ring D, wherein Ring D is a 5-7 membered monocyclic ring or 8-10 membered bicyclic ring selected from aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl or carbocyclyl; and R² and R^{2'} are as described in the specification. The compounds are useful as protein kinase inhibitors, especially as inhibitors of Aurora-2 and GSK-3, for treating diseases such as cancer, diabetes and Alzheimer's disease.